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PATENT 2-040

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Kineo Matsui

Attorney Docket No.: MES1P041

Application No.: 09/830,236

Examiner: Unassigned

Filing Date: July 16, 2001

Group: 2621

Title: METHOD OF EMBEDDING DIGITAL WATERMARK AND METHOD OF DECODING

EMBEDDED DIGITAL WATERMARK

thereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on January 22, 2003.

Signed:

Jowce L. Ferreir

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97</u>

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449 copies of which are enclosed, may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application. These references were cited in a corresponding EPC application. A copy of the European Search Report which was dated December 16, 2002 is enclosed herewith as well. These references are submitted in compliance with the applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to make these citations official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that additional information (material to the examination of this application) does not exist or that the enclosed reference(s) constitute prior art.

1 of 2

MES1P041

Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states that the references enclosed herewith were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. (37 CFR 1.97(e)(1))

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is due in conjunction with the filing of this IDS. However, should the Commissioner determine that additional fees are required for filing the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees to our deposit account number 500388 (Order No. MES1P041).

Respectfully submitted, BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

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Haruo Yawata

Limited Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b)

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